

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for converting a structured document having information regarding multimedia contents comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring distribution rule information sent from a remote source when data contents are sent to said acquisition means, wherein distribution rules of the data contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described, said data contents includes multimedia contents;

generation means for generating the conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting structured documents in which information about the contents is described, said information including a media information describing portion, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired by the acquisition means; and

conversion means for converting the structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means without an intermediate conversion of the structured documents, wherein

the generation means includes a first extraction means for extracting evaluation objects of the conditions included in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, the generation means comprises a second extraction means for extracting the receiver side situation corresponding to the evaluation object from the receiver side situation information on the basis of the evaluation objects extracted by said first extraction means, and evaluation means

for evaluating the conditions on the basis of the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, and on the basis of the results of the evaluation performed by the evaluation means, the conversion rule information is generated.

Claim 3 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 2, when the evaluation performed by the evaluation means is a negative evaluation, the generation means generates the conversion rule information including a conversion rule to delete objects corresponding to the conditions under which the evaluation has been performed from the structured document or change the objects concerned.

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising memory means for storing the conversion rule information generated by the generation means, in correspondence to the evaluation objects extracted by the first extraction means and the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, wherein

the generation means further comprising a third extraction means that, on the basis of the evaluation objects extracted by the first extraction means and the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, extracts the conversion rule information corresponding to the evaluation objects and the receiver side situation from the conversion rule information stored by the memory means, and when the conversion rule information is not extracted by the third extraction means, the generation means generates the conversion rule information on the basis of the result of the evaluation performed by the evaluation means, and

when the conversion rule information is extracted by the third extraction means, the conversion means converts a structured document, on the basis of the extracted conversion rule information.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A computer-implemented method for converting a structured document having information regarding multimedia contents comprising steps of: acquiring distribution rule information sent from a remote source when data contents are sent to a distribution mechanism, wherein distribution rules of the data contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described, said data contents includes multimedia contents; generating conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting the structured document in which information about the contents is described, said information including a media information describing portion, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired in the acquiring step; converting structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated in the generating step without an intermediate conversion of the structured documents, and storing the structured documents in a computer readable memory for subsequent retrieval, wherein the generation step includes extracting evaluation objects of conditions in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium having computer program instructions encoded thereon that implement functions for converting a structured document having information regarding multimedia contents when the instructions are executed by a processor, the functions comprising: acquisition means for acquiring distribution rule information sent from a remote source when data contents are sent to said acquisition means, wherein distribution rules of the data contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at

the side of receivers of the contents are described, said data contents includes multimedia contents;

generation means for generating conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting the structured document in which information about contents is described, said information including a media information describing portion, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired by the acquisition means; and

conversion means for converting the structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means without an intermediate conversion of the structured documents, wherein

the generation means includes a first extraction means for extracting evaluation objects of the conditions included in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for converting a structured document having information regarding multimedia contents comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring distribution rule information wherein distribution rules of contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described, said data contents includes multimedia contents;

generation means for generating the conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting structured documents in which information about the contents is described, said information including a media information describing portion, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired by the acquisition means; and

conversion means for converting the structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means without an intermediate conversion of the structured documents,

the generation means comprising:

a first extraction means for extracting evaluation objects of the conditions included in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information,

a second extraction means for extracting the receiver side situation corresponding to the evaluation object from the receiver side situation information on the basis of the evaluation objects extracted by said first extraction means, and

evaluation means for evaluating the conditions on the basis of the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, and on the basis of the results of the evaluation performed by the evaluation means, the conversion rule information is generated.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method for converting a structured document having information regarding multimedia contents comprising steps of:

acquiring distribution rule information wherein distribution rules of contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described, said data contents includes multimedia contents;

generating conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting the structured document in which information about the contents is described, said information including a media information describing portion, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired in the acquiring step, the generating step comprising the steps of:

first extracting evaluation objects of the conditions included in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information,

second extracting the receiver side situation corresponding to the evaluation object from the receiver side situation information on the basis of the evaluation objects extracted by said first extraction step, and

evaluating the conditions on the basis of the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction step, and on the basis of the results of the evaluation performed by the evaluation step, the conversion rule information being generated; converting structure documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated in the generating step without an intermediate conversion of the structured documents,

outputting the converted structured documents to a distribution server.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium having computer program instructions encoded thereon that implement functions for converting a structured document having information regarding multimedia contents when the instructions are executed by a processor, the functions comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring distribution rule information wherein distribution rules of contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of the receivers of the contents are described, said data contents includes multimedia contents;

generation means for generating the conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting structured documents in which information about the contents is described, said information including a media information describing portion, on the basis

of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired by the acquisition means; and

conversion means for converting the structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means without an intermediate conversion of the structured documents,

the generation means comprising:

a first extraction means for extracting evaluation objects of the conditions included in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information,

a second extraction means for extracting the receiver side situation corresponding to the evaluation object from the receiver side situation information on the basis of the evaluation objects extracted by said first extraction means, and

evaluation means for evaluating the conditions on the basis of the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, and on the basis of the results of the evaluation performed by the evaluation means, the conversion rule information is generated.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising access control means, for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:  
information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects;  
the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means; and  
further comprising access control means, for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The computer implemented method of Claim 5, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The computer implemented method of Claim 5, wherein the converting step judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation step.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The computer implemented method of Claim 5, further comprising controlling access on a judgment based on keyword or value.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The computer implemented method of Claim 5, wherein:

information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects;

the converting step judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation step;

further comprising judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 6, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 6, wherein the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 6, further comprising access control means for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 6, wherein:

information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects;

the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means; and

further comprising access control means for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

**Claim 22 (Previously Presented):** The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects.

**Claim 23 (Previously Presented):** The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means.

**Claim 24 (Previously Presented):** The apparatus of Claim 7, further comprising access control means, for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

**Claim 25 (Previously Presented):** The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects;

wherein the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means;

further comprising access control means, for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

**Claim 26 (Previously Presented):** The method of Claim 8, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects.

**Claim 27 (Previously Presented):** The method of Claim 8, wherein the converting step judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation step.

**Claim 28 (Previously Presented):** The method of Claim 8, further comprising controlling access from a judgment based on keyword or value.

**Claim 29 (Previously Presented):** The method of Claim 8, wherein:  
information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects;  
the converting step judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation step;

further comprising judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

**Claim 30 (Previously Presented):** The computer readable medium of Claim 9, wherein information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects.

**Claim 31 (Previously Presented):** The computer readable medium of Claim 9, wherein the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means.

**Claim 32 (Previously Presented):** The computer readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising means for whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.

**Claim 33 (Previously Presented):** The computer readable medium of Claim 9, wherein:

information regarding the contents of the structured documents is described in each of said evaluation objects;

the conversion means judges from information of the structured documents described in each of said objects whether access control is performable to convert or select the accessible object on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means; and

further comprising means for judging whether to grant access on either a keyword or value basis.